

Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 COME-00 OMB-01 IO-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4560

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EFIN, PN

SUBJ: ANNUAL IBRD/IMF MEETING

REF: STATE 165594

FOLLOWING RESPONSES KEYED TO PARA 2 REFTEL:

(A) IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT PANAMANIAN DELEGATES TO RECENT MEETINGS OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL ORGANIZATIONS, WHILE WELCOMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WITH U.S. DELEGATIONS, HAVE NOT REQUESTED FORMAL BILATERAL MEETINGS. WE HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE SUCH A REQUEST WILL BE MADE IN SEPTEMBER, BUT IF A MEETING IS ARRANGED, PANAMANIAN DELEGATION MIGHT WELL INDICATE PANAMANIAN INTEREST IN OBTAINING PARTIAL FINANCING OF CERRO COLORADO COPPER MINING PROJECT FROM IBRD AND REQUEST SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION OF ANY SUCH PROPOSAL BY U.S.

(B) US DELEGATION MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN EXPLORING WITH PLANNING MINISTER BARLETTA HIS PROPOSAL TO RECENT MEETING OF CENTRAL BANK GOVERNORS FOR CREATION OF A NEW MECHANISM TO FINANCE LATIN AMERICAN EXPORTS TO REST OF WORLD (PANAMA 2878).

(C) OVERRIDING BILATERAL ISSUE AT PRESENT IS OF COURSE CANAL TREATY NEGOTIATION.

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(D) MINISTER OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC POLICY, DR. NICOLAS A.

BARLETTA, IS EXPECTED AGAIN TO HEAD DELEGATION. ALTERNATES WILL
PROBABLY BE FINANCE MINISTER, LIC. MIGUEL A. SANCHIZ, AND GENERAL
MANAGER OF BANCO NACIONAL. INCUMBENT OF LATTER POSITION, LIC.
RICARDO DE LA ESPRIELLA, IS IN POOR HEALTH. WE HAVE HEARD
UNOFFICIAL REPORT THAT HE MAY BE REPLACED SHORTLY BY
COMPTROLLER GENERAL DAMIAN CASTILLO.
GONZALEZ

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